

REMARKS:

Claims 1-10 are in the case and presented for consideration.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-10 for containing trademark identifiers for the otherwise specified hydrofluorocarbons and these have been canceled from the claims as required by the Examiner.

This trademark usage is included in the specification (for example, on page 6, and further specifies the respective hydrofluorocarbons).

The application and claims are now believed to be in proper form under 35 U.S.C. 112.

The Examiner has also rejected all of the claims as being obvious from the Canadian patent.

Canadian patent 2,142,195 teaches a method for deacidifying paper (cellulose-type material) by treating this cellulose-type material with a product which is prepared in the following way: preparing a solution of carbonated alkoxy magnesium compound and a solvent (first solution), and diluting this solution with a hydrofluorocarbon compound. This patent teaches the use of magnesium alkoxides and solvents, such as methoxymagnesium in methanol or ethoxymagnesium in ethanol, for preparing the first solution comprising the carbonated magnesium alkoxide and the corresponding alcohol. The patent further states (see page 6, lines 9-19) that "other suitable carbonated magnesium alkoxides

can be prepared... using other solvents to produce the corresponding homologs of methoxymagnesium methylcarbonate. The solvent must, however, be evaluated for the potential for damage to the bindings, ink, etc. of the material being treated." It is also stated at page 6, lines 20-22, that "the concentration of carbonated magnesium alkoxide in the solvent is suitably in the range of from about 5 to 20% (w/v)."

It has been found by the inventor of the present patent application that when the "first solution" is made of carbonated magnesium di-n-propylate and n-propanol, unexpected advantages can be found in the product for treating the cellulose-type material. Thus, while the concentration of carbonated magnesium alkoxide in the solution of carbonated methoxymagnesium in methanol or carbonated ethoxymagnesium in ethanol is in the range of 5 to 20%, the concentration of carbonated magnesium di-n-propylate in the solution prepared from magnesium di-n-propylate and n-propanol is in the range of 40 to 54% (see example 1, lines 30-31 of page 16, and example 2, lines 28-29 of page 18). The fact that, in contrast to the solutions disclosed in the Canadian patent, the solutions of carbonated magnesium di-n-propylate in n-propanol are stable at very high concentrations makes possible that when adding the hydrofluorocarbon compound, the final product presents lower amounts of alcohol than when employing carbonated methoxymagnesium in methanol or carbonated

ethoxymagnesium in ethanol. Since this lower alcohol product will be in contact with the cellulose-type material, it will not produce as much damages (bindings, inks, etc.) as the products disclosed in the Canadian patent 2,142,195 which present a higher content of alcohol.

Moreover, the fact that the Canadian patent does not mention any carbonated magnesium propoxide; neither any propanol as solvent, and the fact that it is stated in lines 17-19 of page 6 that "the solvent must however be evaluated for the potential for damage to the bindings, ink, etc. of the material being treated" can be interpreted as if carbonated magnesium propoxides and propanol were not in principle appropriated for being employed in the preparation of the present product. Consequently, the Canadian patent does not explicitly teach the use of solutions of carbonated magnesium di-n-propylate in n-propanol.

In other words, the problem to be solved by the present application can be seen in reducing the damage caused by the prior art compositions (e.g., as taught by the Canadian patent) for the deacidification of cellulosic material in the bindings, ink, etc. of this material. This problem has been solved by employing the product defined in claim 1 of the present application.

Since in the light of the available prior art, it had not been obvious for the skilled person the fact that the solutions

of carbonated magnesium di-n-propylate in n-propanol present lower alcohol content than the solutions of carbonated methoxymagnesium in methanol or the carbonated ethoxymagnesium in ethanol, and that this would imply that the final product present less potential for damage to the cellulosic material in the case of the application product, it is believed that the subject-matter of claim 1 of the present application is neither anticipated or obvious from the Canadian patent.

Dependent claims 2-10 further define and distinguish the invention over the prior art and are likewise believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully urged and invited to telephone the undersigned if any matters remain which can be treated by telephone interview in the interest of reaching a conclusion to the prosecution of this case.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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